REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-4 and 6 are pending in this application. No claim amendments have been made. No new matter has been added.

37 C.F.R. §1.75(d)(1)

Claims 1-4 and 6 are objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.75(d)(1). The terms and phrases used in the claims must find clear support or antecedent basis in the description so that the meaning of the terms in the claims may be ascertainable by reference to the description. Applicants respond to this rejection in conjunction with their response to the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, which follows.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-4 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject mater which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection.

In particular, the language of the claim is not indefinite when considered in light of the specification. The claimed "mechanism maintaining a coaxial structure" of claim 1 is clearly supported by the specification. *See* the description on page 11, lines 5 to 8 in the specification which states: "the central contact 201, as shown in Figure 2, is fixed by the first insulating member 205 and the injection ring 206 so as to maintain a relative position with the external

contact 202." The structure of the central contact 201 and the external contact 202 are shown in Figures 1 to 3. Accordingly, the combination of "a first insulating member 205" and "an injection ring 206" for maintaining the relative position of the central contact 201 and the external contact 202 is one example of "a mechanism for maintaining the coaxial structure of the central contact and the external contact" as set forth in claim 1.

The claimed "mechanism rotating with an axis in a direction orthogonal to an axial direction of the central conductor as a rotational axis while maintaining respective electrical connections with the central contact and the central conductor and the external contact and the external conductor", set forth in claims 1 and 2 is also supported in the specification. *See* page 10, line 25 to page 11, line 4 of the specification, for example, which describes:

> [T]he central contact 201 and the central conductor 101, as shown in Figure 2, are electrically connected by the external conductor connecting member 203 provided inside the plug 2. Further, the external contact 202 and the external conductor 103, as shown in Figure 2 are also electrically connected by the external conductor connecting member 204 inside the plug 2."
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> *See also* the description on page 11, lines 16 to 25 of the specification which describes:
>
> [T]he central contact 201, as shown in Figure 2, is bent in such a way that a connecting portion with the central conductor connecting member 203 is superposed with an axis (hereinafter referred to as a second axis) RX in a direction orthogonal to a main axis (hereinafter referred to as a first axis) 201X of the central contact 201. Further, the central contact 201 and the central conductor connecting member 203 are mechanically in contacted state, and the central contact 201 is allowed to make a rotational movement with the second axis RX as a rotational axis.",
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> The description from page 11, line 26 to page 12, line 9 of the specification states:
>
> [T]he external contact 202, as shown in Figure 2, is provided with a protrusion 202B which becomes a point of support for rotation at one end of the cylindrical conductor portion 202A, in other words, at the connection portion with the external conductor connecting member 204. At this time, the protrusion 202B, as shown in figure 3, is a

disk-shaped protrusion such that a protrusion 202 can make a rotational movement with the second axis RX as a rotational axis, and the external conductor connecting member 204 supports the protrusion 202B of the external contact 202 to nip it, and is mechanically in a contacted state with it.

Also, the description on page 12, lines 15 to 25 of the specification states:

When the coaxial cable with a plug of the first embodiment is to be assembled, first, for example, the external contact 202 as shown in Figures 4 (a) and 4 (b) is prepared. The External contact 202 provides a rotational point of support comprising a pair of protrusions 202B in which the axis RX (second axis) becomes a rotational axis in a direction orthogonal to the central axis of the cylindrical conductor portion 202A at one end of the cylindrical conductor portion 202A. Further, at this time, as shown in Figure 4 (b) , an opening is made from the one protrusion 202B so as to communicate with an inner space of the cylindrical conductor portion 202A.

The description from page 12, line 16 to page 13, line 7 of the specification further states:

Next, as shown in Figure 5, the L-shaped central contact 201 is nipped by the first insulating member 205 of a half-divided structure, and is inserted into the cylindrical conductor portion 202A of the external contact. At this time, a portion connected to the central conductor connecting portion of the central contact 201 is pointed at an opening direction of a protrusion 202B, and the injection ring 206 in a state superposed with the second axial RX is pushed, thereby fixing the first insulating member 205.

Applicants also refer to the description on page 14, lines 12 to 17 of the specification as follows:

Next, as shown in Figure 8, the central conductor connecting member 203 which connects the coaxial cable 1 and the central contact 201 which is inserted and fixed to the external contact 202 are connected. At this time, the central contact 201 is not given a mechanical connection such as soldering so as to allow it to make a rotational movement.", and the description from page 14, line 23 to page 15, line 1 of the specification explains: "Next, as shown in Figure 9, by the external conductor connecting members 204A and 204B which are divided into two portions, the protrusion 202B of the external contact 202, the central conductor connecting member

203 (second insulating member 208), and the external conductor 103 of the coaxial cable 1 are nipped and fixed by screws and the like.

Accordingly, the specification clearly supports the claims of the invention. In other words, one having ordinary skill in the art would understand from the terms used in the claims when read in light of the specification that there is a central contact 201 electrically connected with a central conductor 101 via a central conductor connecting member 203, and the central contact 201 and the central conductor connecting member 203 rotate about a second axis RX as a rotational axis, which is orthogonal to an axial direction of said central contact. Therefore, the central contact 201 rotates while maintaining the electric connection with the central conductor 101. Further, it is apparent that the external contact 202 is electrically connected with an external conductor 103 via an external conductor connecting member 204, and the external contact 202 is provided with a disk-shaped protrusion 202B which becomes a point of support for rotation about the above-mentioned second axis RX as a rotational axis.

Also, the above-mentioned external conductor connecting member 204, the external contact 202 having at least one protrusion 202B and the external conductor connecting member 204 having a portion that receives the at least one protrusion 202B for supporting rotation of the external contact 202 and central conductor 201 with respect to the external conductor connecting member 204, receives the protrusion 202B of the external contact 202, and is mechanically in a contacted state with it, so that the external conduct 202 rotates while maintaining the electrical connection with the external conductor connecting member 204.

Therefore, the external contact 202 rotates while maintaining the electrical connection with the external conductor 103.

Accordingly, from the above cited specification, it is apparent that the combination of "the L-shaped central contact 201", "a pair of disk-shaped protrusions 202B of the external contact 202", "an opening made from one protrusion 202B", "the central conductor connecting member 203 for maintaining the electrical connection while contacting the central contact 201", and "external conductor connecting members 204A and 204B for maintaining the protrusion 202B of the above-mentioned external contact 202 to nip it" is one example of "a rotating mechanism (rotating while maintaining the electrical connection)". Accordingly, claims 1 and 2 are in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and therefore the rejection of claims 1-4 and 6 should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Imai, JP 5-94974. Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection for the following reasons.

In Imai, the connecting jack of the plug portion mountable to a socket has a "coaxial" arrangement of the power lead conductors, however the conductors are not part of a coaxial cable and plug combination, as claimed by Applicants. The structure of the Imai plug is unable to maintain a coaxial structure of a central contact and an external contact while maintaining the respective electrical connections, as set forth in claims 1 and 2. That is, the Imai reference

has first and second jacket elements that rotate at the connecting portion and electric power can be supplied through the connection, however the first and second jack elements are not able to maintain the coaxial arrangement of conductors since the connection jack of Imai is not directed to a jack for a coaxial cable, as in the present invention. Accordingly, the 35 U.S.C. §102 rejection of claims 1 and 2 should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-4 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tanaka et al. (JP 58-73584). Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection for the following reasons.

Tanaka discloses a movable connector, and is also similar to the structure of the present invention in that the connector rotates. However, the disclosure is unclear with regard to the electrical contact portion, for example. Accordingly, Tanaka is not anticipatory since one having ordinary skill in the art cannot determine from the reference how to connect the core wire of the cable with the terminal, etc. Therefore the 35 U.S.C. § 102 rejection based on this reference should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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